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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/811,440

Examiner

CHUONG T. HO

Applicant(s)

AKAHANE ET AL.

Art Unit

2664

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 08/29/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

1. The amendment filed 08/29/05 have been entered and made of record.
2. Claims 1-15 are pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-15 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art (6751191, 6636516, 6614791, 6594704, 20040095947, 6751191) of the record does not appear to teach or render obvious the claimed limitations in combination with the specific added limitations, as recited from independent claims 1: "registering, in the memory, header information of the first protocol as a VPN identifier for identifying which of the first VPN and the second VPN to which an IP packet received from the first line belongs, wherein IP packets from the third and the fourth LANs being encapsulated by a second protocol different from the first protocol".

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art (6751191, 6636516, 6614791, 6594704, 20040095947, 6751191) of the record does not appear to teach or render obvious the claimed limitations in combination with the specific added limitations, as recited from independent claims 4: "registering header information of the first protocol as a VPN identifier for identifying which of the first VPN and the second VPN to which an IP packet received from the first line belongs to the memory; registering physical interface numbers assigned to interface between the router and the second line and interface between the router and the third line as a VPN identifier for identifying which of the third VPN and the fourth VPN to which and IP packet received either the second line or the third line belongs.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art (6751191, 6636516, 6614791, 6594704, 20040095947, 6751191) of the record does not appear to teach or render obvious the claimed limitations in combination with the specific added limitations, as recited from independent claims 7: "registering, in the memory, header information of the first protocol as a VPN identifier for identifying which of the first VPN and the second VPN to which an IP packet received from the first line belongs".

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art (6751191, 6636516, 6614791, 6594704, 20040095947, 6751191) of the record does not appear to teach or render obvious the claimed limitations in combination with the specific added limitations, as recited from independent claims 10: "for registering physical interface numbers assigned to interface between the second interface and the first line and interface between the second interface and the second line as a VPN identifier for identifying which of the third VPN and the fourth VPN to which and IP packet received either the first line or the second line belongs".

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art (6751191, 6636516, 6614791, 6594704, 20040095947, 6751191) of the record does not appear to teach or render obvious the claimed limitations in combination with the specific added limitations, as recited from independent claims 13: "registering physical interface numbers assigned to interface between the router and the first line and interface between the router and the second line as a VPN identifier for identifying

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which of the third VPN and the fourth VPN to which an IP packet received either the first line or the second line belongs”.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHUONG T. HO whose telephone number is (571) 272-3133. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

11/03/05



WELLINGTON CHIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER